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2009 H1N1 and Seasonal Influenza Guidance for Emergency Shelters for the 2009-2010 Flu Season

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Revision History: Supersedes CDC Interim Guidance for Homeless and Emergency Shelters on the Novel Influenza A (H1N1) Virus (June 16, 2009)

Introduction

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) has reviewed and **CONCURS** with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) **Guidance for Emergency Shelters for the 2009-2010 Flu Season** and the **Questions and Answers about CDC's Guidance for Emergency Shelters** released on November 24, 2009. This guidance provides recommendations for emergency shelters on planning, staffing, and arranging the shelter to reduce the risk of influenza transmission.

Additional Recommendations

CDPH is working with other state and local partners to prepare specific and practical guidance on process and logistic issues for shelter operators, local health jurisdictions, and local public safety staff to mitigate the spread of influenza in shelters opened for man-made or natural disasters. Local California agencies have extensive experience operating emergency shelters in response to a wide variety of emergencies, which CDPH values. The CDPH Emergency Shelters guidance will be crafted to complement local health jurisdiction emergency preparedness and response protocols. The CDPH Emergency Shelters guidance will contain useful information about subjects mentioned in the CDC Guidance including training, communication, and mental health, alluded to briefly in the CDC Questions and Answers Emergency Shelters document.

Resources

CDC Guidance for Emergency Shelters for the 2009-2010 Flu Season
(<http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/guidance/emergencyselters.htm>)

Questions and Answers about CDC's Guidance for Emergency Shelters for the 2009-2010 Flu Season
(http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/guidance/emergencyselters_qa.htm)

CDPH H1N1 Influenza Homepage
(<http://www.cdph.ca.gov/HealthInfo/discond/Pages/H1N1Home.aspx>)